

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Protecting a host network from a flood-type denial of service attack by passively collecting a data packet from data received by the host network, comparing information in the data packet to a signature of an attack type of the attack, and

5     detecting the attack in response to a determination that the signature and the information comprise matching data. A defensive countermeasure can be initiated to protect the host network from the attack and to provide a pathway for an offensive countermeasure against a source of the attack.

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